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AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

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WALNUT STREET EXT.

Councilor wants action on Games & Lanes

Trespassing raises concerns over site's safety; cleanup of longtime eyesore expected to last until spring

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

At least one member of the Agawam City Council is not satisfied with the latest update provided by Site Redevelopment Technologies on the status of the environmental cleanup at the former Games and Lanes property.

At the Nov. 21 regular meet-

ing, Councilor Anthony Suffriti called on the rest of the council to organize and discuss the issue at a workshop to see what action, if any, can be taken to speed the project along.

In response to that call, Mayor Richard Cohen released a letter he had received from David Peter, owner of SRT, which owns the property. Peter's update, dated

Nov. 18, said he is finished testing the groundwater contamination and currently working on the cleanup and on marketing the property for redevelopment.

Suffriti said he was hoping to an update from the mayor's administration, however. He was pleased to see Peter's letter, but says more needs be done, especially to secure the site while it is

being remediated.

"I appreciate the fact the mayor put out this update," said Suffriti. "But it is not enough. We [councilors] are getting calls from business owners complaining about the site not being secure. There are people going in and out of the building"

Suffriti said SRT, as the new owner of 346-350 Walnut Street

Ext., should be responsible for the security of the property, by installing higher fencing or finding some other way to keep people out.

"Because the building has been condemned and is considered unsafe, the Police Department cannot enter it without the

GAMES | page 10

BE KIND

Cold hands, warm hearts

Kindness project won't hibernate over this winter

By Michael J. Ballway
mballway@turley.com

Kindness is still in season in Agawam.

The families behind this summer's "Be Kind" movement in town brightened a cold, dark, rainy Sunday night with a candlelight vigil last weekend, sharing messages of kindness and looking forward to a winter of building awareness in the town schools.

Shari Balzano reflected on the "Be Kind" phenomenon in Agawam, where a small idea became a community craft project, a booth at National Night Out and an ongoing fundraiser for civic projects. The initial idea was simply for a group of families to make lawn signs en-



Mayor Richard Cohen looks on as Ayden Vrijenhoek talks about Ayden's Ride for Life, which raised \$3,855 this year to fight hunger at the "Be Kind" candlelight vigil Nov. 27. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

VIGIL | page 11

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

Supt. awards 2 seniors as best in class

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Out of hundreds of seniors, only two are chosen.

This year's recipients of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Certificate of Academic Award for Agawam are Bianca Toto and Roman Yusenko. The two high school seniors received their award from Agawam School Superintendent William Sapelli at the Nov. 22 School Committee meeting. AHS Principal Steve Lemanski, who nominated Toto and Yusenko for the award, said they work hard and contribute to a



From left, Agawam High School principal Steve Lemanski stands with AHS seniors Bianca Toto and Roman Yusenko, recently awarded for academics by School Superintendent William Sapelli. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

positive school climate.

"We're fortunate to have many students like them," he said. "Our school is a better place because of Bianca and Roman."

The award criteria include students' three-year class rank cumulative average, as well as

overall school citizenship. Toto and Yusenko, both 17, have nearly identical GPAs, 4.43 and 4.42, respectively. They're ranked among the Class of 2017's top 10 students — she's fifth and he's

AWARDS | page 10

WEST OF THE RIVER FAMILY CENTER

Members hopeful about family center's move to Stick Time

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Members of the West of the River Family Center expressed optimism and appreciation for their board of directors this week after learning that the center will move at the end of 2016.

Citing growing financial burdens and an insufficient growth in membership numbers, the board of directors voted unanimously to move out of their current location at the old Foodmart building on Springfield Street and will move across the parking lot to Stick Time Sports. The move is expected to be completed by the end of December.

Board Chairman Joseph Mi-

neo, who is also the vice president of the City Council, confirmed the move to a meeting of more than 45 members of the family center Tuesday night. Board members agreed that the relationship between Stick Time and the family center could be mutually beneficial. Stick Time has a large facility that includes three indoor artificial turf playing surfaces for sports like indoor soccer, field hockey and lacrosse. There are also two ice-skating rinks.

The West of the River workout equipment, which will include newly purchased cardio machines, will be placed in one

MOVE | page 6



8 0 4 8 7 9 1 3 1 7 6 2

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Town history featured in Lioness coverlets

The Agawam Lioness Club is offering historical coverlets which feature illustrations of various Agawam landmarks. Pictured on the coverlet are Riverside Park Carousel (1940), the oldest home in Agawam built in 1715, Anne Sullivan Memorial, Captain Leonard House, a trolley car built in early 1900s, Town Hall (1942), the town seal, the first high school (1922), covered bridge (1845), first library (1925), a 1917 firehouse, Worthy Paper Mill and the Indian head, which has become the town symbol.

The coverlets are jacquard-woven, 100 percent cotton, machine-washable, color-fast, preshrunk and woven in the U.S.A. They come in hunter green or navy and are \$45 each. Proceeds go to the Lioness Club to help raise money for aiding the sight impaired.

For more information and to place an order, call Pat at 413-786-1782 or Rose at 413-786-5134.

Gently used toys wanted for holiday exchange this week

Agawam High School's National Honor Society and Agawam's Zero Waste Club are co-hosting a Holiday Used Toy Exchange. This event is being created to become a source of holiday gifts for residents on tight budgets, as well as increase the lifespan of consumer goods which are discarded long before their usefulness is waned.

Gently used, clean, working toys will be collected at the Agawam Public Library on Friday, Dec. 2, from noon to 5:30 p.m. Gently used toys wanted include musical instruments, action figures, dolls, sports equipment, books, bicycles, electronics, video games, DVDs, stuffed animals, model kits, art supplies, building toys, creative learning toys, outdoor toys and structures, games, puzzles, and baby toys. Please, no dirty, broken or incomplete toys. All donations will be prescreened before donators leave.

General public free shopping of these gently used toys will be on Saturday, Dec. 3, from 10 a.m. until noon. Adults are asked not to bring children into the shopping area, to preserve their holiday surprise; activities for children will be available in the Children's Center while adults shop.

In order to share with as many families as possible, families will be limited to an amount they are able to carry in one trip to their vehicle. Be sure to bring a reusable shopping bag; this is a zero-waste event.

Any toys remaining will be donated to a local charity. For further information, visit www.agawam.ma.us under the events column, email helgathehen@gmail.com, or call Nancy Bobskill at 413-285-2182.

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Agawam Advertiser News OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$75, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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CORRECTION

The date of the public hearing on the “Pave Our Streets” petition was incorrect in a page 1 headline in last week’s Agawam Advertiser News. The date in the body of the story — 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19, in the Doering School auditorium at 68 Main St., Agawam — is correct.

Agawam, West Side firefighters face off in moustache contest

Agawam firefighters will show off the results of No Shave November in a public judging at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5, at Murphy’s Pub, 664 Suffield St., Agawam.

Firefighters in both Agawam and West Springfield have been growing facial hair since the start of November to as part of a campaign to raise money and awareness in the fight against cancer. Each firefighter paid \$20 to participate, which is donated to the No Shave November cancer prevention, awareness and research programs.

Monday’s official judging will pit Agawam firefighters against West Side in a moustache grow-off. To support the cause, donate at https://no-shave.org/org/Agawam_v_WestSide.

Members sought for zoning board

Agawam City Council President James Cichetti has announced that effective immediately, there is an opening for one regular position and one alternate position on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Interested parties should contact Barbara Bard in the City Council office at 413-726-9716 or bbard@agawam.ma.us as soon as possible.

Junior Women to meet Dec. 13

The final club meeting of 2016 for the GFWC Agawam Junior Women’s Club will be held Tuesday, Dec. 13, at the Agawam Senior Center. A social with refreshments will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the program and business meeting at 6:30 p.m.

The Senior Center is at 954 Main St., Agawam. The entrance for the meeting is in the back.

Pez author to discuss candy’s history

Shawn Peterson will discuss his passion for all things Pez and the history of the company that makes it in a presentation based on his new book “PEZ: From Austrian Invention to American Icon” at the Agawam Library at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5.

In addition to Pez’s colorful past, Peterson will share his own story, from initially picking up a few Pez dispensers at a flea market near his home in Kansas City, to later parlaying his interest into his dream job running the Pez Visitor Center in Connecticut.

Attendees are invited to bring a favorite Pez dispenser to the event and can take home a free Pez candy sample. To register for this event, call the library at 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or visit www.agawamlibrary.org. The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.



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The “Singing Christmas Tree Spectacular,” pictured in 2014, is an annual tradition at Bethany Assembly of God. FILE PHOTO

Singing Tree takes stage this weekend

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

A Christmas singing tradition returns this weekend as the Bethany Assembly of God will present its 2016 Singing Christmas Tree Spectacular over the next two weekends.

There will be performances of the singing tree on Dec. 2, 3 and 4, and another set of performances the following weekend, Dec. 9, 10, and 11.

Bethany’s minister of music, Ken Bryars, has been working all week to prepare for the annual presentation. He said he and the ensemble who perform at the event are preparing to entertain about 7,000 people.

“We average about 700 to 800 people for each of the performances,” said Bryars. “It is one of the most unique stories in the Pioneer Valley.”

Bryars said a 65-member choir will be stationed aboard a gigantic tree that has been constructed in the church hall. The tree was constructed earlier this week, and a sound system and lighting were being completed as of Tuesday.

Bryars said he has programmed the lighting to changed based on the tempo of the individual songs.

The Singing Christmas Tree has been a tradition of the church for the past 43 years. It was started at Bethany’s old home on Armory Street in Springfield and continued

when the church moved to Agawam in the 1980s. Bryars has been with the program since 1992 and is in charge of directing and organizing the event.

He said the performance will include several new songs. The theme for this year’s presentation will be “Emmanuel Has Come!” Along with the various Christmas hymns and songs, the Advent of Christmas, featuring the birth of Jesus, will be portrayed.

Bryars said the performance is open to adults and children and the music is meant to get people up and dancing and singing along with the choir.

He said the event different from other Christmas celebrations in the region and estimates that about 80 percent of the crowds that come to see the performances are from outside of their church community.

“We are so happy to welcome everyone in to see the performance,” said Bryars. “It has been such a great tradition to show what the true meaning of Christmas, and that is to celebrate the birth of Jesus.”

The event is free of charge to the public, with performances at 7 p.m. on Friday, 6 p.m. on Saturday, and 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Sunday. The same schedule will repeat the following weekend. There is no reserved seating for the public. Bethany Assembly of God is at 580 Main St., Agawam.

Artists to display work at library

The Agawam Community Artists and Artisans will present their work at the Agawam Public Library during December. Beginning Dec.1 and running through Dec. 31, the artists will have their works displayed on the gallery walls and glass cases of the library.

Monetary awards will be given for first, second and third place, four honorable mentions and Best of Show. The awards will be presented at an ACAA members-only meeting Dec. 14, at 6:30 p.m. at the library.

The judge is Roc Goudreau, a tradigital illustrator. As a professional illustrator for over 25 years, he is accomplished in a variety of mediums.

The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Flu vaccine still available

The Agawam Health Department has announced that a limited vaccine supply is still available. To schedule a vaccination, call 413-726-9722.



Happy Holidays!

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Opinion

EDITORIAL

Plazas gone, but a toll still taken

Hey, remember back when we had tollbooths? Despite their origin as a temporary measure intended only to pay off the cost of building an east-west expressway across Massachusetts, the turnpike toll plazas were beginning to feel like a timeless and eternal fixture of the Western Massachusetts landscape, as immovable as the Berkshire hills. But Massachusetts Turnpike travelers — including Agawam residents whose business or family visits take them to the Berkshires or Eastern Massachusetts — suddenly don't see a big blue canopy in front of them as they enter Interstate 90. Last month saw a smooth transition to open-road tolling, as the new toll gantries took over seamlessly at the end of October and the toll plazas themselves were taken down almost immediately.

In contrast to the usually glacial pace of state construction work, the tollbooth demolition has been swift, showing that the state takes roadway safety seriously. The sooner that the toll plazas can be converted to ordinary exit-entrance ramps, without forcing drivers to slow down and dodge concrete barriers, the safer it will be.

No more tollbooths means less congestion at turnpike exits and may produce an administrative savings, if the cost of maintaining the gantries and mailing road toll invoices to the owners of "pay-by-plate" cars proves to be less than the salaries, overtime and benefits that were paid to toll-takers.

As long as the state continues to charge drivers to use the Massachusetts Turnpike, however, taking down the tollbooths is just a symbolic move. It's still deeply unfair that commuters and other travelers along the east-west axis pay an added user fee on top of the gas tax, while north-south travelers along Interstate 91, or along the several highways in the Boston area, don't. It's even more unfair that this inequality persists because the state power brokers in Boston have broken promise after promise to their western constituents to remove the tolls.

Originally, the tolls were supposed to end when the construction debt was retired. That happened in 1988; the tolls remained. Then Boston's Central Artery debt was attached to the turnpike, despite the fact that the Big Dig primarily benefits commuters who drive (for free) on Interstate 93. Then the Western Massachusetts exits were declared toll-free, only to have the state backtrack and reinstitute tolls a few years later.

The latest turnpike bonds are set to expire in 2017, but now that the state has built these brand-new gantries, it seems unlikely they'd shut them off anytime soon.

Open-road tolling is here to stay, and in some ways that's a good thing. It probably will make the turnpike more efficient — both for drivers and for its budget. But unless the state starts building toll gantries on the rest of its Interstate highways, it also means another couple decades of unfairness and broken promises.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.

Let us know

The Agawam Advertiser News, your community newspaper, welcomes letters, submissions, photographs and news tips from residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills.

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Our office is open Monday through Thursday mornings, and other weekday times by appointment.



Letters to the Editor

Veterans grateful for note of thanks, donation

The members of American Legion Wilson Thompson Post 185 of Agawam wish to thank the young woman who approached members of the honor guard at the post on Veterans Day after the ceremonies on the Agawam Veterans Green with a modest but welcome donation to the post's uniform fund with the following note:

To our Veterans,
There are not enough words to fully express our gratitude, but thank you. Through the dedication and sacrifice given by you all, you have given us all the freedom which

we hold dear.
As we have recently had a baby girl, we are more grateful than ever for people like you who have helped to create this amazing place for her to grow up in.
Thank you for protecting our rights and our freedom.
We hold you in our thoughts,
Bob, June & Clara

Stephen Estee
Post 185 member
Feeding Hills

Dueling pianists benefit Tot Lot at Perry Lane

The Agawam Lions Club would like to thank the Chez Josef team and its patrons for their support at last weekend's Dueling Pianos event that took place on Saturday, Nov. 26. The club raffled off a "scratch ticket tree" as well as received a portion of the evening's ticket proceeds, all to benefit the Perry Lane "Tot Lot" project. The Agawam Lions Club is appreciative to have had the opportunity to partner with Chez Josef on such a fun and unique event.

The club continues to plan fun and exciting Perry Lane Tot Lot fundraising events extending well into 2017. To stay up to date on our fundraising efforts and upcoming events, please follow the Agawam Lions Club on Facebook or visit www.agawamlions.org. Thank you for your continued support.

Cheryl Terramagra
Agawam Lions Club



One of the two dueling pianists performs music by Elton John at Chez Josef on Saturday, Nov. 26. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Trump's abrasive campaign doesn't get respect

The results of our recent election were not merely disappointing, they were tragic. I do not condone burning our flag or violence of any kind, but I don't think it is understood that people are not protesting our democracy or politics, they are demonstrating against a blatant affront to humanity. They are demonstrating against a person who encourages fear and divisiveness. By electing Mr. Trump, we have said yes to bigotry and racism. We have said yes to mocking individuals with disabilities, yes to objectifying women, and yes to hatred. We, as a country, have validated every horrible, abrasive statement he made, or action he performed.

I raised my three children in a country that stood together against discrimination of any form. I encouraged them to see people for who they were, not the color of their skin, where they chose to worship, or their sexual preference.

I am still unable to fully comprehend

how a reality show television star has become the president of our country. I don't think he expected this outcome. He is in no way qualified for the job, and I am sure the enormity of the responsibility is just now sinking in.

I hope that he will not undo the progress that has been made regarding equal rights for all, a women's right to make the most difficult decisions about her health, the environment, and health care. I hope that he will become a better person as he realizes the responsibility that he has for all the people who live in this country.

Respect is something that is earned, and Mr. Trump has not earned my respect, and certainly not my admiration. The words he spoke have created deep wounds which cannot be undone.

Noreen Little
Feeding Hills

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JAY SPEAKS

Thanksgiving vegetables, revisited

Our daughter-in-law Jan belongs to a farm group that purchases shares of the summer crop of fruits and vegetables. Two years ago, I wrote a story for the Agawam Advertiser News that spelled out the 17 veggies that accompanied our Thanksgiving dinner meal. Last year we consumed one additional vegetable, making it 18 veggies.

All doctors, nurses, dieticians and, of course, all the TV talk show experts urge their patients and listeners to "eat your vegetables." Therefore, this year, we were hoping to add one more, making the total 19 veggies for the dinner table. There is good news and bad news.

The good news is, yes, we did hit 19 veggies. The Bad news is we did it without any of the root vegetables of the prior two years, and without any exotic or new veggie for the palate. The 19 are plain and ordinary vegetables that most of our readers had on their Thanksgiving dinner table.

I have prepared a list in no particular order of those veggies that graced our table:

1. Green beans
2. Zucchini
3. Onion
4. Cranberry
5. Tomato
6. Jalapeno
7. Cucumber
8. Olive
9. Pimiento
10. Potato
11. Lettuce
12. Horseradish
13. Garlic
14. Celery
15. Leeks
16. Pumpkin
17. Mushroom
18. Chives
19. Beets

The astute reader of this story notes

that peas, carrots and corn are left off the list of veggies. It is deliberate, in that they were there at the table, but I ignored them because: When one of our sons was quite young they were his favorite vegetables ... but they could never touch each other. For example, if he had peas and carrots on his plate, and they were on opposite sides of his plate, and suddenly one pea escaped and rolled into the carrots ... the entire dish was contaminated. Or, if there were carrots and corn, and a kernel of corn got away. ...

Our children and Kitty outgrew it, but I never did. Oh well. As the great philosopher Johnny Appleseed said, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away." He might have also said, "Eat plenty of veggies and improve your health on the way."

The discussion of vegetables and their connection with good health has helped Kitty and me. Now, when we order pizza, we ask for a vegetarian pizza. If we order out or eat in at a Chinese restaurant, we will order vegetarian dishes.

During the summer months, in addition to our own small garden patch, Agawam has some wonderful farms growing a great number of pick-yourself and order-off-the-shelf vegetables. We freeze a modest amount and can a few of the veggies for winter use.

This year was a tough year for water. The drought really caught up with us. The drought was blamed for the lack of root crops at our Thanksgiving dinner. Hopefully, between rain and snow, the drought will ease up and the usual cycle of rain will pick up.

Let's look forward to 20 veggies in 2017.

Jay Berger is retired from a job in publishing and lives in Agawam with his wife Kitty. They have three children and six grandchildren.



Jay Berger

GUEST COMMENTARY

Can't have it both ways on taxes, spending

In the Nov. 24, 2016, edition of the Agawam Advertiser News, it was interesting to read the editorial about the tax split between residential and business properties and the notice for the public hearing on Dec. 19, 2106, on the petition filed by Will Clark (about town spending on sidewalks), and think about them together.

The current tax split does seem to focus more on the next election than the long-term best interest of the town (residents vote and businesses don't), but however the division is made, more revenue absolutely is required to meet the needs of our town. Sidewalks are only one area of concern. Our town infrastructure, roads, sewers, water pipes, have all been inadequately maintained and underfunded for years. The need for an early childhood center has reached the point of desperation.

Yet most voters make clear they do not want to pay higher property taxes. The harsh reality is that we cannot have it both ways. If we want good, safe infrastructure, good schools and good services, the money has to come from somewhere.

Property taxes are inherently regressive and I have long felt that the town could do much more to seek revenue from other sources. We could obtain an audit to review all town spending to look for potential savings in structure and efficiency. We could explore more ways to partner with other towns in the region for savings on mutual needs and services. We could aggressively pursue state and private grants. There likely are other possibilities that could be explored.

But after all this is done, town residents need to be willing to face up to potential increases in our property taxes. There are ways to protect some homeowners for whom this would be a genuine hardship, with abatements for eligible seniors as well as veterans and those who are legally blind. I would also want to see the town work with the state to devise a strategy to help homeowners who do not fit these categories but would be too negatively effected.

None of us likes to pay more taxes. We all have other things we would rather spend our money on. But in the end, this really is about the kind of town we want to live in and pass on to our children. What are our values? What do we want our future town to be like? We all need to ask ourselves these questions, then work with our elected officials to find solutions.

Corinne M. Wingard is an Agawam resident.



Corinne Wingard

DEATH NOTICES

Evangelista, Carl J.

Died Nov. 18
Remembrance service Dec. 17
Agawam Funeral Home Inc.

Hess, Thomas D.

Died Nov. 14
Funeral Dec. 3
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam

Perreault, Ernest R.

Died Nov. 23
Funeral Nov. 28
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam

Robinson, Edward G.

Died Nov. 20
Funeral Nov. 26
Curran-Jones Funeral Home West Springfield

Agawam Advertiser News

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$75, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

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IT BECOMES YOU.

All welcome at community seminar this Saturday on opioid addiction

SOUTHWICK — Residents of all towns are invited to an Opioid Awareness Seminar to be held Saturday. Living Hope Church and the town of Southwick are sponsoring the seminar, 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 3, at Southwick Town Hall, 454 College Highway.

Topics to be covered at the seminar are: What are the signs of opiod addiction? How do I help my friend or loved

one who is addicted? What programs and resources are available to help? What is Narcan and how is it used? Stories of addiction and recovery will also be shared.

There is no restriction on what ages can attend the meeting, but parents are asked to use discretion as the Southwick Police Department will be talking about stories of addiction.

Columbia Gas warns of utility payment scam

Columbia Gas is warning customers to be vigilant for scammers masquerading as utility bill collectors.

“Unfortunately, the busy holiday season is the time of year when customers are most vulnerable to scams, whether through phone calls, emails, or knocks on the door. If you are concerned about suspicious account activity and are unsure about the legitimacy of any email, phone call, program or offer claiming to be affiliated with Columbia Gas of Massachusetts, please call our Customer Service Center at 800-688-6160,” advised Steve Bryant, president of the utility that serves natural gas customers in Agawam.

Under one recent scam, a customer receives an unsolicited phone call from an individual who falsely claims to be a Columbia Gas representative. The scammer warns that Columbia Gas of Massachusetts will disconnect the customer’s gas service if the customer fails to make a payment — usually within a short timeframe. Some of these scammers have tried to use caller ID spoofing to replicate Columbia Gas of Massachusetts’ customer service number.

The thief becomes angry and tells the customer his or her account is past due

and service will be disconnected if a payment isn’t made — usually within less than an hour.

The thief instructs the customer to purchase a pre-paid debit or credit card – widely available at retail stores — then call him or her back to supposedly make a payment. The scammer asks the customer for the prepaid card’s receipt number and PIN number, which grants instant access to the card’s funds.

Columbia Gas of Massachusetts never asks or requires a customer with a delinquent account to purchase a prepaid debit card to avoid disconnection.

Customers can make payments online, by phone, automatic bank draft, mail or in person. Visit www.ColumbiaGasMA to see a list of authorized payment agents.

Customers with delinquent accounts receive an advance disconnection notification with the regular monthly billing — never a single notification one hour before disconnection.

Those who suspect a scam should hang up and call the local police, then Columbia Gas of Massachusetts at 800-688-6160. Never dial the phone number the scammers provide.

Press guide available for churches, nonprofits

SPRINGFIELD — The Valley Press Club’s annual guide to reaching and dealing with the media in Western Massachusetts is now available for purchase.

Included with the booklet is a CD containing a database of area media outlets, including daily and weekly newspapers, radio and television stations, with contact names and numbers, distribution, circulation, deadlines and other useful information.

The booklet has the listings, plus articles on how to get publicity, writing news releases, working with various media, how to be a good news source, getting submitted photographs in the paper and helpful hints for dealing with the various media organizations.

The guide also has an updated listing of public access television stations through-

out the area, with information on how to get a message on their bulletin boards, their deadlines, and accepted video formats for local access programming. Another topic the guide covers is how best to use social media, such as Facebook and Twitter.

The proceeds from the sale of the media guide benefit the club’s scholarship program for Western Massachusetts students who wish to study journalism.

The cost of the booklet plus CD is \$32 for Valley Press Club members and \$37 for non-members.

For a media guide order form write to Media Guide, Valley Press Club, P.O. Box 5475, Springfield, MA 01102; or download an order form at www.valleypressclub.com.

For more information, call club president Charlie Bennett at 413-596-4765.

Cultural Council welcomes new members

The Agawam Cultural Council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 20, at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public.

An opportunity exists with the Agawam Cultural Council for anyone with an interest in providing diverse cultural events for the town. This all-volunteer organization, appointed by the mayor

and funded, in part, by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, is looking for new members. The Cultural Council is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.

MOVE ■ from page 1

location in the facility, and weights already located in the facility will also be made available for members.

The facility will include a West of the River Family Center name on the marquee, hours will remain the same, and a number of staff members will carry over to the new location, including Ryan Rackliffe, the director of operations for the center. Also moving will be the various exercise classes and programs as well as the daycare options.

Rackliffe told the members he is hopeful that not only will the family center be able to maintain the current programs, but with the new facility, be able to expand on them, such as having ice-skating lessons. Rackliffe said the family center recently secured a grant to purchase lacrosse equipment, and would be able to use the new facility to start a lacrosse program for youth.

Members asked general questions about how the new facility would work and also made suggestions about marking the new location and finding ways to attract new members.

Members of the board of directors said they would welcome suggestions and Mineo specifically said he would be more hands-on going forward in the operation of the center to help ensure its success.

The move will allow the family center to reduce its monthly deficit without increasing membership rates, as the rent at Stick Time will be about one-third of what they are paying at their current location. Mineo said that the landlord of their building has been informed they will be moving out by the end of the month. Mineo said the new cardio equipment will be delivered on or around Dec. 14, and the move could begin then. He said the hope is for a seamless move where the family center would close one night in one location, and re-open the next day at Stick Time with full services available. He also acknowledged there would be growing pains, and encouraged members to come to the board with questions, comments, and concerns. He and the board also said they would schedule a meeting in the near future with more updates on the status of the move.

This will be the second major change for the fitness and community center in less than a year, after it lost its YMCA affiliation — and reopened under the “West of the River” banner in partnership with the Valley Opportunity Council — in June. The Agawam YMCA was founded in October 2014, in its current location at 61 Springfield St., as a branch of the Greater Springfield YMCA.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Poets
6. Insecticide
9. Insect feeler
13. Intestinal
14. “Drum Boogie” singer
15. Region
16. Chinese automotive co.
17. Served before entree
18. Dwells
19. Boosted
21. Tells players what to do
22. Infections
23. Hoover is one
24. Expresses surprise
25. Basketball position (abbr.)
27. Fresh Prince of ___ Air
28. Hindu queens
30. Easter marshmallow treat
32. Where coaches stand

35. Women
37. Thai province
38. Drenches
40. Matters that settle
43. Not wide
44. Elaborate garments
45. Swiss river
47. South Dakota
48. Instinctive part of the mind
50. Some put this in their hair
51. French young women
53. Two legged support
55. Stimulates the heart
59. Waste matter
60. Nocturnal rodents
61. The Who anthem “___ O’Riley”
62. Old age personified
63. Remnant
64. Disband
65. Nanosecond
66. Referee declares
67. A citizen of Iran

CLUES DOWN

1. “ER” actress Leslie
2. Wings
3. Power to direct and control
4. Small freshwater fishes of Eurasia
5. Scandium
6. Earnhardt and Hunter are two
7. Two-parted
8. Foul-mouthed bear from the movies
9. Tan horses
10. Song
11. Draw blood
12. High-ranking Turkish officer
14. Determine time
17. Begets
20. Watch chain
21. Constellation representing a dog
23. Indian dish
25. Legumes
26. Romanian river

28. An auto you don’t keep
29. Signs, ___, delivers
30. Police Department
31. Relating to teaching
33. Sportscaster Patrick
34. A way to glide
36. Fathered
39. Statute mile (abbr.)
41. One-thousandth of an inch
42. Discounts
46. Rockers from Georgia
48. Norwegian playwright
49. Herbs
51. S. China seaport
52. Stout sword
54. Pasty
55. Fill a suitcase
56. Japanese weapon
57. Dark brown or black
58. Grain crop
60. Time used in far western states
64. Drill instructor



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Public Safety

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 66 EMS calls from Nov. 22 to Nov. 28, and the following emergency response calls.

On Nov. 22 at 8:49 a.m., the department responded to S. Westfield Street for smoke or odor removal.

On Nov. 22 at 2:25 p.m., the department responded to Memorial Drive for public service assistance, other.

On Nov. 22 at 4:46 p.m., the department responded to Spring Street for unauthorized burning.

On Nov. 22 at 10:32 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for alarm system activation, no fire—unintentional

On Nov. 23 at 7:57 a.m., the department responded to Southwick Street to assist invalid.

On Nov. 23 at 9:51 p.m., the department responded to Shoemaker Lane for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On Nov. 23 at 11:21 p.m., the department responded to Royal Street for lockout.

On Nov. 24 at 9 a.m., the department responded to Beekman Drive for water evacuation.

On Nov. 24 at 11:08 a.m., the department responded to Maple Street for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On Nov. 24 at 12:32 p.m., the department responded to Parker Street for carbon monoxide incident.

On Nov. 24 at 1:24 p.m., the department responded to Sterling Road for alarm system activation, no fire—unintentional.

On Nov. 24 at 2:54 p.m., the department responded to Mansion Woods Drive for cooking fire, confined to container.

On Nov. 24 at 4:30 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for alarm system sounded due to malfunction.

On Nov. 25 at 9:47 a.m., the department responded to Leonard Street to assist invalid.

On Nov. 28 at 2:20 p.m., the department responded to Allison Drive for extrication, rescue, other.

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 271 calls for service from Nov. 22 to Nov. 28. The department recorded 1 arrest in its public log.

Saturday, Nov. 26

Paula Greenough, 49, of South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of liquor and negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

Tripping

Monthly: Mohegan Sun Casino trip with the Friends of the Agawam Senior Center. The final trip for 2016 is Dec. 26. \$25 per person. Call Penny at Friends of the Agawam Senior Center, 413-519-7223.

Dec. 3: New York City. Depart Suffield Middle School parking lot at 7:30 p.m., leave the city at 7 p.m. To register, call 860-668-3862 or visit www.suffieldrec.com.

Dec. 8: Gilded Age Christmas in the Hudson Valley at the Vanderbilt Mansion and FDR's Hyde Park with an elegant lunch at Shadows on the Hudson. \$93 per person. Call George Wheeler, Southwick Travelers group leader, at 413-569-3854.

Dec. 8: Jimmy Sturr and His Orchestra Christmas show at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, Conn. \$84 per person. Includes family-style luncheon. Call Emile Cote at 413-335-9440.

Dec. 8: Shopping trip to Buckland Hills Mall. Call the Southwick Senior Center at 413-569-5498.

Dec. 11: Singing Christmas Tree at Bethany Assembly of God in Agawam. \$2 per person. Lunch on your own at Parthe-

non Restaurant. Call the Southwick Senior Center at 413-569-5498.

Dec. 11-13: White Mountain Resort Hotel in Concord, N.H. \$439 per person, double occupancy. Includes welcome reception, two breakfasts and dinners, entertainment daily in the ballroom, 50 percent off coupon for the Tavern, scenic train ride, a stop at the Christmas Shop, North Conway Outlet shopping, baggage handling and taxes. Call Emile Cote at 413-335-9440.

Jan. 28, 2017: Railroad Hobby Show at the Eastern State Exposition, West Springfield. \$17 per person, lunch at your own at Take 5, Agawam. Call the Southwick Senior Center at 413-569-5498.

Feb. 5: Little Theater of Manchester at Cheney Hall for performance of Calendar Girls. Lunch at Hartford Road Pizza, show at 2 p.m. Call the Southwick Senior Center at 413-569-5498.

Feb. 14, 2017: Mohegan Sun Casino. \$24 per person includes \$15 meal credit or free buffet and \$20 bet. Sign up and pay at the Southwick Senior Center by Jan. 16 or call 413-569-5498.

Smoke alarms available in Fire Dept. safety campaign

The Agawam Fire Department, in cooperation with the American Red Cross, will be conducting a home fire preparedness and safety campaign Dec. 20 and 21. Those who sign up and participate in the program will be visited by members of the Red Cross and Agawam firefighters who will install new smoke detectors in the home free of charge. To be eligible, participants must own their home, the home must have been built before 1975, and it must have no smoke alarms or alarms older than 10 years.

To participate, interested parties should sign up by calling 413-726-2885.

The goal of the program is to increase fire safety awareness and improve fire detection capabilities.

Agawam Fire Chief Alan Sirois said, "There is no question that early fire detection and alerting of building occupants allows for safe evacuation in an emergency. Smoke detectors save lives. It is my hope that this program can help prevent tragedies from occurring in our community."

Valley Gives slated for next May

This spring, the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts's Capacity Program will promote philanthropy across the Pioneer Valley on May 2, 2017, during Valley Gives Day.

This will be the fifth Valley Gives. Last year's spring event was successful in bringing new donors into philanthropic giving: 47 percent of all donors had never participated in Valley Gives previously.

"Valley Gives is a practical way for people living in the Pioneer Valley to show their support for the many organizations that make our region a great place to live," said Valley Gives organizer Michael DeChira. "This is an opportunity for people and businesses to invest locally to support our quality of life."

Mary Lynn Sabourin, development di-

rector for Franklin Land Trust, said the land trust received numerous new donors during last May's event.

"The Franklin Land Trust has participated in Valley Gives for the past four years," said Sabourin. "We consider our participation hugely successful for our non-profit, raising over \$50,000 in 2016 with close to half of the 286 donors being brand new to the organization. We are excited to be part of a regional giving day that strengthens the Valley that we call home."

The Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts is celebrating 25 years of encouraging generosity in the region this year. The foundation has given more than \$140 million in grants, scholarships and loans since 1991 in addition to promoting nonprofit sustainability.

Adult education classes offered at AHS

Registration for the spring semester of the Agawam Adult Education Program will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, 2017, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Agawam High School Career Center.

Late registration will also be held up until the nights of the first class meetings, Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 7-8. Late registration cost is an additional \$10 per class and students must attend the first class.

Classes are held at Agawam High School, 760 Cooper St. They will begin at 5 p.m. and end at 8 p.m. The cost is \$125 per course, paid in full at the time of registration. Cash or certified checks (bank checks, money orders) will be accepted and should be made payable to Agawam Adult Education. No personal checks can be accepted.

Those persons interested in working toward an Agawam Evening High School diploma or certificate of attainment must schedule an appointment with Shawn Tatro to enroll. These students must bring with them a transcript since grade 9, MCAS

scores, a letter of withdrawal from previously attended school and SASID number.

Classes to be offered on Tuesdays include English 9, English 10, English 11, English 12, U.S. history, world history, and business and computers.

Wednesday classes include algebra I, geometry, algebra II and physical science.

The administration reserves the right to cancel a course for lack of enrollment or change the day the course is offered. Tuition reimbursement will be offered for a cancelled class.

If Agawam schools are closed because of inclement weather, evening school is also cancelled. Local radio stations will announce any cancellations. Make-up days for inclement weather will be scheduled during the term.

For more information, contact Shawn Tatro, director, at 413-726-1676 or 413-821-0527, or visit www.agawampublicschools.org.

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

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August 21, 2016

and Pam Wilkins of Hyannis

A cartoon illustration of a grey bear wearing a white Santa hat with a red pom-pom. The bear is sitting and smiling, with its arms resting on its knees. To the left of the bear is a large, stylized letter 'E'.

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Deadline for photos & forms is Tuesday, Dec. 6th

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Youth

Residents named to Pope Francis honor roll

Grade 12: Lauren Fedor, first honors, Michael Muszynski, honorable mention.

Grade 9: Gianna Moretti and Peyton Rohan, second honors.

DOERING SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

Roberta G. Doering School Principal Susan Federico recently announced the first term honor roll for the 2016-17 school year.

Grade 6: Connor Adamczyk, Hana Ahmed, Muhamer Ahmeti, Jared Anziano, Megan Ball, Gianna Bassette, Ailyana Batista, Julianne Bazanchuk, Matthew Benard, Madison Bennett, Alexander Bernard, Lillian Bissonnette, Aeryanna Bramlett, Landen Cahill, Jack Canney, Thomas Cascio, Ava Cateiotti, Nolan Chamberland, Genevieve Charette, Kylie Circosta, Matthew Cleavall, Rachel Cohen, Sean Colfer, Sophia Consolini, Taryn Crowley, Rachel Cure, Alexander DeGray, Joshua Diaz, Kendyl Donner, Hunter Emmons, Murphy Estes, Dylan Fisk, Ryan Fitzgerald, Grace Frasier, Daniel Fronchkevich, Nathaniel Garcia, Bailey Gervais, Evan Gilbert, Cameron Gillis, Devon Giorgini, Athena Gonzalez, Kendra Grady, Christina Grasso, Zoe Hartmann, Tyler Hayward, Dimitri Heinze, Julianna Hunt, Zachary Hurley, Melina Ichton, Lynn Jang, Diana Javadian, Noah Jodoin, Colin Jorgensen, Jonathan Jung, Angela Kuzmenko, Colin La, Isabel Lalancette, Ian Lamari, Leah LaPointe, Marisa Larocque, Joseph Liquori, Nellie Lukomski, Kylar Ma, Erica Majka, Cohen Manekas, Hannah Manning, Sierra Moccio, Austin Moore, Conor Moriarty, Hailey Newsome, Cody Nguyen, Aiden Noftall, William Noll, Arthur Oganyan, Morgan Oldenburg, Nathaniel Olmo, Mary Papova, William Parker, Krishna Patel, Anthony Pederzani, Alina Polevoy, Diana Polyova, Christopher Rondinelli, Richard Roy, Marissa Rufo, Morganne Rust, Julie Sanchez, Elizabeth Santore, Kayla Santucci, Huda Sarhan, Jillian Scott, Alexandra Seibert, Emily Sexton, Gabriella Shayda, Nicholas Shea, Cole Stepanik, Maksim Stepchuk, Reese Stevens, Matthew Stickle, Carly Swain, Sarah Tower, Tara Trudeau, Kylie Turgeon, Kristen Vinciguerra, McKenna Wheeler, Samantha Wheeler, Tyler Williams, Muhammad Zahoor, Gabrielle Zollo.

Grade 5: Hayden Alaimo, Taylor Allivato, Brianna Anderson, Matthew Arsenault, Christine Babinov, Christopher Baez, Marissa Bengle, Eden Berry, Aden Blair,

Brandon Bourgeois, Evan Bourgeois, Adriana Bradow, Peyton Buffum, Carter Bulmer, Anthony Buoniconti, Emily Bussiere-Sykes, Jaylin Canales, Isabella Carra, Noah Carra, Alivia Carrier, Isabella Castro, Dominic Chen, Elira Cobb, Cameron Cote, Kalynn Cressotti, Andrew Creteau, Gerad Crute, Jr., Damon Cunningham, Kaila Dastigir, Frank Decaro, Theah DeGray, Marianna Dellaripa, Peter DiBella, Colby Dietrich, Matthew DiLullo, Brooke Eastman, Tessa Ebreo, Brett Eggleston, Alanna Fiermonte, Philip Fini, Nicholas Finley, Ava Fitzgerald, Carter French, Madison Gagnon, Isabella Garcia, Frankie Gentile, Sophia Gill, Emma Gilroy, Chloe Gionfriddo, Ryan Gokey, Isabel Grechka, Shaun Griffin, Dylan Griswood, Tyler Grondin, Olivia Gryszowka, Samantha Gryszowka, Lisa Hale, Simon Halford, Alexis Hurley, Rhein Ingham, Alyssa Inton, Kaitlyn Kelley, Liam Kennedy, Angelina Kozhen-evsky, Mark Kukharchuk, Lauren La, Kevin LaFrance, Steel Land, Grant Lanier, Daniil Lapsov, Cassidy Lapsova, Angelina Langard, Landon Lindsey, Cassidy Lockwood, Jaxon Luke, Yana Lukin, Jacob MacDougall, Erin Manoney, Karen Malachowski, Gabriella Manes, Elijah Mat-shevsky, Kaden McCarthy, Bailey McElligot, Madeline McGregor, Mia McGregor, Mia McGregor, Quinn Miller, Amy Miolla, Talan Morello, Emma Murray, David New-some, Shannon Newsome, Nicholas Nguyen, Emma Nicosia, Alyssa Nieves, Leanne Obitz, Lena Oliyevskaya, Isaac Pagan, Riley Park, Jake Parolo, Gianna Pettazzoni, Michael Plakias, Thomas Plakias, McKenna Podworski, Andrew Pownall, Maksim Rodionov, Kaylee Randall, An-drew Regnier, Vincent Radier, Gabriel Rua, Julia Rubin, Donovan Salva, Zachary Sarrazin, Joann Schmuck, Jocelyn Scott, Dmitriy Shapovalov, Ilya Shlemanov, David Sholopa, Isabella Sibilja, Brayden Signet, Sophia Simmons, Timothy Sinigur, Colin Smith, Nicolas Soroka, Michael St. Pierre, Ryan Stairs, Hunter Stark, Dino Stel-lato Jeffrey Szulc, Ethan Talevi, Cassidy Tetreault, Abigail Thomas, Marcus Varenjev, Bianca Vasquez, Madeleine Veras, Autumn Vincze, Hadley Votzakis, Amy Vu, Marcus Wallace, Mary Williams, Gabriella Wood, Jacob Wood, Alexis Woziak, Praayvan Yadav.

AHS COUNSELING BULLETIN

Open houses

Many colleges are hosting events in the next few weeks. Check the Counseling Center for more information.

Special interest programs

Springfield Technical Community College will be having an Open Enrollment Day. An admissions counselor will be at Agawam High School on Monday, Dec. 5, to provide instant decisions. All that is needed is a signed application. See Mrs. Thirone in the Counseling Office for more information.

Holyoke Community College will be hosting an Instant Decision Day at Agawam High School on Thursday, Dec. 8. This is an opportunity for students to meet personally with representatives of HCC and to receive individual counsel on their desired program. Students must sign up in the Counseling Office by Dec. 2.

The American Student Assistance College Planning Centers offer free assistance with completing financial aid applications, both in-person, at Centers and over the phone (877-33-4348). Additionally, the Boston College Planning Center is holding FAFSA Workshops every Saturday from 10 to 11 a.m. and Federal Student Aid ID Workshops every Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. More information is available by calling Kristi Pierce at 617-728-4608.

New England Institute of Technology will be hosting a series of Career Education Days to help students learn more about their potential careers — Construction Day, Nov. 18; Engineering and Communications Day, March 3; Health Day, April 7. To register for any of these events go to NEIT.edu/CareerEducation.

Westfield State University is offering early college access to high school students. Eligible students must have a "B" average or better in their high school classes in order to be eligible. Students wishing to pursue dual enrollment must meet all eligibility criteria which can be found at mass.edu/strategic/read_cdep.asp. The deadline for Spring 2017 is Dec. 9. The reduced tuition for a three-credit course is \$636 and a four-credit course is \$848.

Springfield Technical Community College and Holyoke Community College are again offering the chance

for current juniors and seniors to take up to one free course in each semester through the College Now program. This is a great way to earn college credits while in high school while trying courses that may be helpful in exploring a potential career interest. See your counselor for details.

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Are you a young entrepreneur? Graduating high school seniors who operate their own small businesses are eligible to receive a 2017 NFIB Young Entrepreneur Award from the NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation. Visit NFIB.com/YEA for more information and to apply online between by Dec. 18.

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Students should see their counselor or visit the websites for more information or an application: Hendry David Thoreau Foundation; GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program; Make College Happen Challenge; Massachusetts AFL-CIO Scholarship Awards Program; Young Entrepreneur Foundation; American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program; 2017 Profile in Courage Essay; Elon Teaching Fellows Program; Skidmore College; Ronald McDonald House Charities US Scholarship Program; Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps; Big Y Scholarship; Charitable and Educational Trust of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; Order sons of Italy in America; American College Foundation; B. Davis Scholarship; Aspiring Fashion Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Animation Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Business Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Business Professional Scholarship.

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School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 5: Chicken patty on a bun, oven baked Tater Tots, green beans, fresh and chilled fruit.
Tuesday, Dec. 6: Grilled cheese with tomato soup, whole-grain Goldfish crackers, seasoned carrots, fresh and chilled fruit.
Wednesday, Dec. 7: Chicken filet wrap with assorted sauce served with lettuce, tomato and cheese, side of pasta salad, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, Nov. Dec. 8: Fresh assorted calzones, garden salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit.
Friday, Dec. 9: Turkey potpie, garden tossed salad, whole-grain dinner roll,, fresh and chilled fruit.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, Dec. 5: Turkey grinder with cheese, lettuce and tomato, macaroni salad, cucumber slices, fresh and chilled fruit.
Tuesday, Dec. 6: Cheese-stuffed hot pockets with dipping sauce, seasoned broccoli, fresh and chilled fruit.
Wednesday, Dec. 7: Ziti with meat sauce, garlic knot, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, Dec. 8: Hamburger / cheeseburger, baked potato rounds, chickpea salad, fresh and chilled fruit.
Friday, Dec. 9: Ultra grain stuffed-crust pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST MENU

Monday, Dec. 5: Assorted low-sugar cereal, stuffed bagel sticks, mozzarella cheese, assorted muffins, juice or milk.
Tuesday, Dec. 6: Assorted low-sugar cereal, assorted nutigrain bars, mozzarella cheese, assorted muffins, juice or milk.
Wednesday, Dec. 7: Assorted low-sugar cereal, warm cinnamon roll, mozzarella cheese, assorted muffins, juice or milk.
Thursday, Dec. 8: Assorted low-sugar cereal, assorted nutigrain bar, mozzarella cheese, assorted muffins, juice or milk.
Friday, Dec. 9: Assorted waffles with syrup, string cheese, fresh fruit, juice or milk.



Students at the Roberta G. Doering School took part in a presentation on hazardous materials last month. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Kids invited to Heritage Woods to see Santa

Santa Claus will be visiting Heritage Woods Senior Living on Saturday, Dec. 3, from 2 to 3 p.m. Parents are welcome to take pictures of their children visiting with Santa. There will also be refreshments and entertainment provided by a children's choir. For more information, call 413-789-8332 or email nicole.wallace@genesishcc.com.
Heritage Woods is at 462 Main St., Agawam.

Doering students learn about hazmat science

The sixth grade students at the Roberta G. Doering School have been working recently on studying materials scientifically. In connection with that study, Emerson Campbell, an employee at Longo Carpet Cleaning and Restoration in Agawam, was a guest speaker last month and gave a demonstration of the hazmat suit he is required to wear when at work, explaining the purpose of each piece of the suit.

Campbell also gave a PowerPoint presentation describing different levels of hazardous materials, and signs on trucks and containers with these warnings. Following the presentation was a question and answer period.
The students participated in this event as part of the newly adopted science standards set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Education.

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A man with a beard and sunglasses on his head, wearing a red and blue plaid shirt, is holding a green-handled screwdriver. He is standing in a workshop filled with various tools and equipment. In the foreground, there is a motorcycle engine. The background shows shelves with tools and a red toolbox.

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AWARDS ■ from page 1

sixth — and both take several honors and AP classes. In addition to their academic achievement, both are involved in numerous AHS extracurricular activities — from clubs to student government to sports teams — as leaders and as positive role models for peers and underclassmen.

“I’m humbled and honored. It recognizes all the hard work and effort I’ve put forth during my years as an Agawam student with the support of faculty, family, and friends,” Toto said. “Roman and I have put 100 percent into our strenuous classes to prepare for our futures.”

Yusenko said the award recognizes his hard work throughout high school.

“It feels great to be selected,” he added. “Never before have I received an academic award of this high nature or of academic excellence based upon my great grades and overall contribution to school society.”

Toto’s top college choices include the University of Miami, Boston College, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She plans to major in biology on a pre-medicine track to prepare for medical school.

“I plan to specialize as a dermatologist,” said Toto, who is secretary of the AHS Future Medical Career Club. “I’m intrigued by the skin and hope to help people struggling with skin issues, such as acne or skin cancer.”

Yusenko is considering a business degree from Western New England University. Working for his father in various positions at his real estate business for the past several years has inspired Yusenko to follow in his father’s footsteps.

“Watching him from a very young age, I’ve realized his love for people drove him to choose the real estate field. I too, would love to assist people in this process of obtaining their dreams.”

College advantage

The award is given in the fall to benefit the recipients when they apply to colleges. Toto and Yusenko — who praised AHS teachers for preparing them for college and a career — said the award definitely will be an advantage.

Toto said it will set her apart from other applicants. Yusenko said it shows how hard he’s worked in high school to achieve academic success.

Toto and Yusenko also lead busy lives outside of school. Besides his part-time real estate work, Yusenko is active in his church, playing bass in the band, assisting a teen group, and volunteering for other community service opportunities.

Toto teaches and takes piano lessons, writes her own music, enjoys surfing, works as a lifeguard, and is interning at a department store in West Hartford, Conn. For the past five years she’s volunteered on Rachel’s Table Teen Board as co-president for publicity.

Balancing school, sports, music, friends, and family can be difficult and stressful, but it’s worth it Toto said, because she enjoys her activities.

“My secret to school success is to always put the extra time in — whether it’s studying an extra half hour or really putting in the effort on an essay, hard work now will pay off in the long run,” she said.

Yusenko said he finds time for his activities by dedicating as much time as possible to each one — “whether or not it causes a loss of sleep or sacrifices spending time with friends or being even more involved in clubs and sports.” He tries to use his time in school to get homework done early and study for tests.

Their parents, who watched as they received their awards, are proud and ecstatic about the accomplishment the award signifies.

Filomena and Anthony Toto, who have stressed the importance of learning and education as the gateway to personal growth and professional success, said education has always been their number one priority for Bianca.

“This award has reinforced our commitment to her higher education goals,” added Toto’s mother.

Nikolay Yusenko wasn’t surprised to hear his son was selected for the award.

“He’s a bright kid and I’m very proud of him. Roman’s earned it — he works hard in school,” he said.

Yusenko and his wife Svetlana instilled in Roman the importance of hard work in all aspects of life, including education.

“No matter what it is, whether its sports, work or school, we’ve told him to work as hard as he can so that he may look back and have no regrets,” Nikolay Yusenko said.



Fences at the Games and Lanes property are able to keep cars — but not trespassers — off most of the property. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

GAMES ■ from page 1

chief’s permission,” said Suffriti. “And then they are at risk.”

Suffriti said he, himself, has received many calls about people, possibly homeless, inhabiting the building at different times. Though the building is unsafe, he said, it offers an attractive shelter for some as the colder months set in.

The City Council will consider establishing a redevelopment authority that would work with property owners in situations such as this.

“It’s a constant struggle to try and keep the site secure,” Peter responded this week. “Every time the building gets broken into, I go back and board it back up. It’s under constant surveillance.”

He also confirmed that the building is insured.

In his letter last month, Peter said he hopes the site will be ready for redevelopment in the spring.

“By the spring we expect to have completed the environmental work on our property and have the ability to redevelop after meeting DEP regulations,” the letter stated.

Peter noted that considerable time, ef-

fort and funds have been spent to complete the site cleanup.

Cohen said he understands why it appears as though nothing is being done about the longtime eyesore property, but said he’s satisfied with the progress taking place behind the scenes.

“It’s very difficult to see tangible results on that site, but Mr. Peter is working very hard to clean up the environmental issues,” Cohen said this week. “He has been working with the town and he is constant contact with my office. We are hoping to market and redevelop this property as soon as it is cleaned up in March or April.”

Games and Lanes has been closed for 17 years and remained a blighted property as it fell more and more into disrepair. SRT officially purchased the property in April, after entering into a purchase and sales agreement several months before that and conducting its own assessments of the contamination on the property and surrounding properties.

The property was most recently a bowling alley and fun center. The in-ground contamination consists of drycleaning chemicals and dates back several decades to its previous use as the headquarters for a uniform company.

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VIGIL ■ from page 1

couraging kindness.

"We thought we'd make about 20 of them with our mom friends," Balzano said.

Instead, hundreds were made, each one hand-lettered by children of all ages, parents and teachers. The signs dot lawns throughout Agawam and even into surrounding communities like Southwick and West Springfield — which has started its own independent "Be Kind" campaign.

The vigil was conceived as a way to carry that spirit into the winter.

"While signs are great, after the snow comes up it's going to be hard to see them," Balzano said.

After a brief candlelight program of speeches and sharing examples of kind acts, families were invited to pick up a "Be Kind" ornament for a donation. The donations will help buy "Be Kind" magnets for students at Agawam Junior High School, where the peer mediator group will be holding an all-school half-day program on kindness later this year.

Balzano also announced that the group's campaign to raise funds for "buddy benches" was successful, with \$3,000 in donations received. The benches recently arrived from a vendor and the Department of Public Works was hoping to install them this week.

The blue benches are intended to help kids make friends. Anyone feeling lonely could sit on the bench, and other kids at the playground would know that the one on the bench was looking for someone to play with.

Buddy benches will be placed at the playgrounds of all four Agawam elementary schools, Perry Lane Park and School Street Park. The children who led the fund-raising campaign will speak at school-wide assemblies to introduce the concept to their peers.

Wendy Rua, a "Be Kind" mother and also a School Committee member in town, said she is inspired by the example being set by

the children who conceived and designed the signs and ornaments, researched and advocated for the buddy bench concept, stand up against bullying and have generally embraced the "Be Kind" philosophy in all Agawam schools.

"You kids are our future," she said. "You are our hope, and every little thing you do means so much to us."

Asked to share their acts of kindness, a couple of the "Be Kind" kids spoke about other community projects at the vigil. Ayden Vrijenhoek said "Ayden's Ride for Life," in its third year, raised \$3,855 last month to fight hunger. Lucas Fillion and Timothy Rua spoke about Cub Scout Pack 77's bottle and can drive earlier this year, which raised enough money to sponsor a Purple Heart Trail sign on Main Street.

Mayor Richard Cohen commended the youth for making an impact.

"Everyone talks about doing a random act of kindness," the mayor said. "If we all did an intentional act of kindness, what a difference it would make."

The movement began as a response to the fear and hate rising throughout the country over the summer, particularly in the aftermath of several shootings by, and later of, police officers. Though those specific incidents have faded from public view, there's still a need for a positive movement to bring the town together, said Rhonda Typrowicz, a "Be Kind" mother and a teacher at Phelps School.

"Things are still not settled," Typrowicz said. "The election made things a little bit worse."

She said several Agawam schools are working with the "Be Kind" group: Phelps will have a kindness program in February; Robinson Park School has a "Be Kind" bulletin board. All Agawam elementary schools use PBIS, the positive behavior intervention system, which rewards students with prizes or special privileges when they are observed making good decisions and helping others.



Children and parents hold candles in a vigil for kindness last Saturday at School Street Park. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY



Shari Balzano, one of the mothers who helps run the "Be Kind" campaign, speaks at the candlelight vigil on Nov. 27.

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

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SPORTS

FOOTBALL

Brownies offense takes care of Terriers

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – A strong end to the first half helped propel Agawam to its fifth straight Thanksgiving win as the Brownies defeated rival West Springfield 40-28 at Clark Field.

West Springfield, which reached the Western Massachusetts Division 2 Championship game, was largely considered a favorite after going through a more successful regular season campaign. But Agawam's defense did a good job holding down the fort in the first half.

After a pair of punts, West Springfield did manage to break the scoreboard when Cam Paier caught a long pass down the right side from quarterback Tylor Rocheford for a 58-yard touchdown reception. With the extra point, it was 7-0 West Springfield.

Agawam did not answer back until late in the second quarter, when running back Chris Morassi got his first big run of the game with a 25-yard gain to the end

zone.

Unfortunately, the point-after kick was wide and Agawam still trailed.

But the Brownies were able to make it right after a fumble got them the ball back with little time remaining in the first half. After a few quick plays, Matt O'Keefe scored a touchdown on a 6-yard run. He took the ball again and found the end zone just barely to get the two-point conversion and give Agawam a 14-7 lead heading into halftime.

The Terriers were able to tie it 14-14 late in the third, but the offenses on both sides would break out after that.

Agawam scored on a 12-yard run with 3:26 left to help Agawam re-take the lead. Agawam added to the lead with a Basile pass to Ryan White for 21 yards.

Up by two touchdowns, there were four more scores in the final eight minutes of the game as each team traded scores, allowing Agawam to finish the two touchdown margin of victory.

FOOTBALL | page 13



Spencer Kozlak goes for a tackle. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

VOLLEYBALL

Agawam girls volleyball well-represented at all-star game

By Nate Rosenthal
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

WEST SPRINGFIELD - Once again, the best girls' volleyball players in Western Mass got together for the Hall of Fame All-Star game on Nov. 21 at West Springfield High School. Those players picked for the first and second teams were put together to form two squads, Friermood and Morgan, and two matches of three sets apiece were played. Maddy Lockwood and Paige Hardy played together on the Friermood's second team. Bianca Culhane played for Morgan first team against Catherine Hitchcock, who played for Friermood. That team was coached by Agawam's Kevin Pender.

While the competition was strong, this was night of fun for the athletes, as they got the opportunity to play with many of those they have played against for years. That was special to everyone. The teams were named for two of the greatest leaders in the sport. William G. Morgan, who invented volleyball in 1895 at the Holyoke YMCA. It was just four years after James Naismith created another sport basketball, just a few miles away at Springfield College. Harold T. Friermood, known as the grandfather of volleyball, was one of the sport's greatest advocates. They were the first two inductees into the Hall of Fame, Morgan in 1985 and Friermood in 1986.

The matches were competitive for the most part. In the second team competition, Team Morgan won the opener 25-14 and then took the second by a much closer



Maddy Lockwood, Bianca Culhane, Caroline Hitchcock, and Paige Hardy represented Agawam girls volleyball at the all-star game held on Nov. 21 at West Springfield High School.

25-23 score. As it was predetermined, that the teams would play three times, they went at it again and in a seesaw battle, Team Friermood took the third, 25-23.

The first teams followed. In the opener, Friermood jumped out to a 5-0 lead and looked to be on its way to a blowout when the score was 10-1. Back came Morgan, first closing to seven at 12-5, then 14-10. Down 21-18, Morgan scored the final seven points for a 25-21 victory. In the second, Friermood took the initial lead, but Morgan tied it at 5-5 and scored the next point for the lead. The teams traded points to 11-11, when Friermood took the lead for good. It was still close at 18-16, but it was Friermood that scored the final seven points in this one for a 25-16 victory. That set up the rubber match and this one went right down to the wire. There were ten ties. The biggest leads for either team was four,

VOLLEYBALL | page 14



Bianca Culhane was among the Agawam players in action at the all-star game. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPOTOS.COM

Thanksgiving is its own season for Brownie, Terrier football

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – Another Thanksgiving victory for Agawam just goes to show that the regular season can sometimes have no bearing on the competition that takes place in a game with a historic rivalry.

On paper, West Springfield had a clear advantage with a much better regular season record despite playing a less competitive schedule than Agawam. The Terriers showed their mettle late in the season when they scored a major upset over Agawam's new rival, Chicopee Comprehensive, in the Division 2 semifinals.

But last Thursday morning, none of the numbers, the wins, the losses, mattered as Agawam's defense stepped up.

A team that had done a good job scoring during the regular season saw their offense shut down for the majority of the first half.

Agawam's defense had struggle at times during the regular season, but managed to keep West Springfield off the scoreboard long enough for the offense to put a couple of touchdowns on the board and get the Brownies a lead heading into the second half.

From there, it became a game of adjustments, and Agawam clearly made better choices as their running backs were able to find more opportunities to score. Another great adjustment for Agawam was the distribution of the football to multiple backs. In addition to Chris Morassi and Jared Durocher,

Agawam utilized two other backs, Frank Cipriani and Matt O'Keefe also contributed and received opportunities to carry the ball.

The different options helped Agawam spread the offense around to some different weapons. O'Keefe ended up with two touchdowns and Cipriani also ended up with a score.

The approach for Agawam showed that when the calendar turns to Thanksgiving, the game takes a life of its own and every player is looking to help their score be on the winning end of rivalry. The victory gives Agawam its impressive 63rd in 92 meetings between the two teams and gives the Brownies a high note to head toward next season with.

Agawam had some good points to their season and have plenty to build off of as they had to 2017.

The improvement of the backs will help Agawam moving forward with Morassi and Cipriani set to graduate, and O'Keefe and Durocher to return next season.

The season, Morassi cemented his legacy in Agawam football with 1,553 yards on the ground and 18 touchdowns. He also led the defense with five interceptions.

Durocher was next on the team with 444 yards. Anthony Adams will return next year as a senior and he contributed 357 yards. O'Keefe will have a chance to build on his 139 yards this season when he becomes a junior and has an opportunity to come back and have an increased role.

Sports

FOOTBALL ■ from page 12

O’Keefe scored on a 13-yard run while the final touchdown of the game was scored on a short run by Frank Cipriani.

Both Cipriani and O’Keefe played very well in their final game of the regular season.

Basile completed 4-of-7 pass for 91 yards and one touchdown. Morassi had two of those catches for 79 yards. On the ground, the senior running back would run 11 times for 125 yards.

Jared Durocher ran eight times for 72 yards.

Cipriani contributed with 55 yards,

including a few big plays. O’Keefe also had a similar role, getting carries at key moments of need for Agawam, and had 51 yards on the ground.

With the victory, Agawam finishes their season with a 7-4 record, with a three game winning streak to finish out the year.



Quarterback Mike Basile fakes a handoff before attempting a pass.



Matt O’Keefe dives for a couple of extra yards. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Spencer Kozlak attempts to kick an extra point.



Frank Cipriani makes a final dive during his carry of the football.

Proposed WMass soccer realignments for 2017-2018

Editor’s Note: The enrollment numbers listed are just for the population of boys in the school. If a team has a co-op agreement with another school, then the combined enrollments of the two schools is the number listed. Vocational schools are placed down a division based on their enrollment numbers.

Boys		
Division 1		
SCHOOL	CURRENT DIVISION	ENROLLMENT
Central	1	1017
Comp	1	801
Sci-Tech	1	780
Commerce	1	721
Holyoke	1	673
Agawam	1	650
West Side	1	639
Minnechaug	1	577
Westfield	1	555
Amherst	1	498
Longmeadow	1	487
Pittsfield	1	465
Chicopee	1	443
Ludlow	1	441
Northampton	1	425
E. Long	1	403
Division 3		
Putnam	3	629
Taonic	3	363
Belchertown	3	354
Franklin Tech	4	342

Mahar	3	281
South Hadley	3	276
Southwick	3	275
Wahconah	3	275
Monument	3	265
Hampshire	3	231
Pope Francis	3	214
Sabis	3	213
Athol	3	208
Easthampton	3	203
Hoosac	3	194
Frontier	3	192
Renaissance	4	185
Greenfield	4	183
Mt. Greylock	3	177
Palmer	3	175

REALIGNMENT | page 14

Soccer divisional changes proposed

Monson, Granby, Belchertown could be moving

By Dave Forbes
Turley Publications Sports Staff Writer

With the 2016 high school soccer season now in the rearview mirror, the time has come to look forward to the 2017 campaign, which may see a few significant shifts in the divisional landscape.

Recently, the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association released its proposed boys and girls soccer realignments for the 2017-2018 through the 2020-2021 seasons, and two of the seismic changes that could take place is the moving of two Western Massachusetts girls champions to new divisions next season. Monson, the four-time Division 4 title winner, is slotted to make the move to Division 3, while Granby, the current two-time Division 3 champion along with reaching the finals in 2013 and 2014, is slated to move to Division 4.

Monson girls soccer head coach Eric Degnan said he was aware of the proposal by the MIAA to move his team up a division.

“It is just a proposal at this point, but we will wait and see what happens,” Degnan said. “We will play in whatever division they tell us we are playing in.”

There are four other schools that could be joining Monson into moving into the new Division 3. Those schools are: Belchertown, Putnam and Sci-Tech, which are all currently in Division 1, and Pope Francis, a Division 4 school.

Belchertown girls soccer coach Chris Mogavero said his school is also considering their options, as they may appeal to remain in Division 1.

This would not be the first time that Monson and Belchertown are in the same division. In 2012, back when the divisions were called 1, 2 and 3, the Lady Orioles beat Monson in the Western Massachusetts Division 2 finals, 4-0, at Westfield State University.

Under the proposed realignment, there would be 17 girls teams in Division 1, 23 in Division 3 and 20 in Division 4.

On the boys side, there are also several divisional shifts being proposed, but not to the dynamic nature of some of the girls teams. There are none being proposed in Division 1, while Pathfinder, Drury and Hampden Charter could all be going from 3 to 4, while Franklin Tech, Renaissance and Greenfield would shift from 4 to 3.

During the spring of 2016 each fall sport committee develops alignment modification to become effective in the fall of 2017.

Schools and leagues are given the fall of 2016 to review and discuss these divisional alignments.

Appeals by the high school principal or league president must be filed before Dec. 21, 2016

Appeals by the soccer committee will be heard during the winter of 2016-2017.

Final fall alignments for 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 will be released during the spring of 2017.

Dave Forbes is a sports editor for Turley Publications. He can be reached at dforbes@turley.com or by calling 413-283-8393 ext. 237.



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Sports

Proposed WMass soccer realignments for 2017-2018 through 2020-2021

Editor's Note: The enrollment numbers listed are just for the number of girls in the school. If a team has a co-op agreement with another school, then the combined enrollments of the two schools is the number listed. Vocational schools are placed down a division based on their enrollment numbers.

Girls			Division 3			Division 4		
Division 1			Pittsfield	1	417	Monson	4	158
SCHOOL	CURRENT DIVISION	ENROLLMENT	Putnam	1	749	Pioneer Reg.	3	140
Central	1	932	Sci-Tech	1	579	Pathfinder	4	249
Comp	1	677	Taconic	3	357	West. Tech	4	196
Westfield	1	674	Belchertown	1	352	Smith Voke	4	184
Commerce	1	660	Mahar	3	296	McCann Tech	4	180
Agawam	1	601	Wahconah	3	278	Franklin Tech	4	179
Holyoke	1	600	Monument	3	276	Ware	4	135
West Side	1	596	South Hadley	3	268	Mohawk	4	133
Minnechaug	1	588	Southwick	3	265	Granby	3	131
Chicopee	1	515	Sabis	3	251	Lee	4	122
Longmeadow	1	469	Hampshire	3	243	Lenox	4	119
Ludlow	1	459	Easthampton	3	228	Gateway	4	113
Northampton	1	459	Renaissance	3	204	Turners Falls	4	112
E. Long.	1	453	Drury	3	196	Mt. Everett	4	108
Amherst	1	440	Pope Francis	4	196	Hampden Ch.	4	98
			Palmer	3	189	Hopkins	4	94
			Hoosac	3	187	Duggan Aca.	4	79
			Frontier	3	185	SmithAca.	4	66
			Greenfield	3	173	St. Joseph	4	41
			Mt. Greylock	3	171	St. Mary	4	37
			Athol	3	158	Pioneer Char.	4	26

VOLLEYBALL ■ from page 12

Friermood at 9-5 and Morgan at 20-16. It came down to a tiebreaker, with Friermood winning, 26-24. At the conclusion of each match, the players were given their All-Star game certificates and after the first team finished, Cara McKenzie of Belchertown was honored as the Western Mass Player of the Year. She was also named to the All-State team along with Teya Nolan and Claire Basler-Chang of Amherst.

Right: One of the first team squads was led by Agawam coach Kevin Pender.

Below: Girls volleyball action from the 2016 All-Star Game, presented by the Volleyball Hall of Fame. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEET-DOGPHOTOS.COM



Our advertisers make this publication possible.

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REALIGNMENT ■ from page 13

Division 4			Turners Falls	4	121
Pathfinder	3	368	Gateway	4	116
West. Tech	4	313	Duggan Aca.	4	104
McCann Tech	4	297	Lenox	4	100
Smith Voke	4	284	Mt. Everett	4	99
Monson	4	155	Hopkins	4	89
Mohawk	4	154	Hampden Ch.	4	86
Lee	4	149	St. Mary	4	55
Drury	4	148	Smith Aca.	4	54
Ware	4	144	PVC	4	48
Granby	4	138	St. Joseph	4	46
Pioneer Reg.	4	122	Pioneer Char.	4	30

Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to Turley Publications, 380 Union St., West Springfield, MA 01089. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, Dec. 2

RHYTHM AND BLUES free concert at 7 p.m. in the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. The BluesHead Band features Carl Hopkins, an Agawam resident, on guitar. Part of the Agawam Cultural Council's Applause Series.

WESTFIELD RIVER BREWING CO., 707 College Highway, Southwick, will host a release party of its new beer, Save North Pond IPA, at 5 p.m. with live music by Acoustic Marshpit at 6 p.m. A portion of the proceeds will help establish a conservation area on North Pond.

Saturday, Dec. 3

ANNUAL HOLLY BAZAAR at Southwick Congregational Church, 488 College Highway from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

OPIOID AWARENESS SEMINAR from 10 a.m. to noon at Southwick Town Hall, 454 College Highway. Sponsored by the town of Southwick and Living Hope Church. The public is welcome.

WORCESTER COUNTY KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW today and tomorrow from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Free admission

YULETIDE AT STORROWTON today and tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Storrowton Village Museum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Free admission.

A HOLIDAY BAZAAR at Landmark at Monastery Heights, Senior Living Community, 110 Monastery Ave., West Springfield, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Locally handmade items, baked goods, local honey and more.

Sunday, Dec. 4

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA hosted by the Knights of Columbus Council 11178 from 8:30 to 11 a.m. in Father Shea Hall of Our Lady of the Lake Church, 224 Sheep Pasture Road, Southwick.

BREAKFAST AND PHOTOS WITH SANTA CLAUS at the Southwick Rec Center, 64 Powder Mill Road, from 8 a.m. to noon. Prizes will be raffled throughout the morning and Santa Claus will be available for photos. The cost for breakfast is \$8 per adult and \$5 for children under 12.

WESTFIELD WOMAN'S CLUB will host the Dan Kane & Friends holiday concert at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person, are on sale now and may be purchased at 413-568-7833 or in the Westfield Athenaeum at 6 Elm St.

HOLLIDAY FAIR at Grace Lutheran Church, 1552 Westfield St., West Springfield in the church hall. Local crafters, traditional church shops, a bake sale and holiday raffle. Luncheon served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 5

A CHRISTMAS DINNER at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Cost is \$10. Tickets may be reserved by calling the church office at 413-786-6133.

SHAWN PETERSON WILL DISCUSS HIS PASSION FOR ALL THINGS PEZ and the history of the company that makes it in a presentation based on his new book "PEZ: From Austrian Invention to American Icon" at the Agawam



Among those to welcome Santa to the Eastfield Mall recently were students from the Mary Ann Studio of Dance. From left, Kaya Torey, Kendra Grady of Feeding Hills, owner Mary Ann Langone, Jessie Smith of Agawam, and Erikah Jenney. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Local dancers help welcome Santa

SPRINGFIELD — The Mary Ann Studio of Dance was on hand again this year to welcome Santa to the Eastfield Mall Saturday, Nov. 19. The dancers joined in the parade with Santa through the mall, and escorted him to the North Pole where he will be greeting area children to hear their wishes for the coming holidays.

It is a very active holiday season for

the Mary Ann dancers, as just a few short weeks earlier they took part in the "Fun & Fit" day at the Eastfield Mall with a dance demonstration. The dancers also marched in the Spirit of Springfield Big Balloon Parade, and will perform in December at Tower Square in Springfield to entertain visitors to the Boys & Girls Club Festival of Trees.

wam Library at 7 p.m. To register, call 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or visit www.agawamlibrary.org. The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Tuesday, Dec. 6

YULETIDE OPEN HOUSE TOURS today through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Storrowton Village Museum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission \$5; free for children under 6.

Wednesday, Dec. 7

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL WINTER ARTS FESTIVAL begins at 6:30 p.m. Art exhibits, vocal performances provided by choral students, Tenal Tenacity, the Belles-Tones, and Ear Candy.

Admission \$5 per person. The high school is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

HOLIDAY VENDOR FAIR at The Cove –Tavern, 90 Point Grove Road, Southwick from 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7. Food and drink will be available.

YULETIDE BY LANTERN LIGHT from 6 to 8 p.m. in Storrowton Village Museum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission \$5; free for children under 6.

Thursday, Dec. 8

EASTERN DOG CLUB ALL BREED DOG SHOW today through Sunday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Free admission.

Saturday, Dec. 10

WINTER MARKET will be open from 10 a.m. to 3

p.m. inside the Episcopal Church of the Atonement, 36 Court St., Westfield and will include vendors with seasonal products and local crafters with pottery, candles, woodcrafts and home decorating items. The building is handicap accessible with free parking, and professional babysitting is provided.

ANTIQUE AND MODERN FIREARMS today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission \$12; free for children under 12 with parent / guardian. Coupon available online.

Sunday, Dec. 11

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St., West Springfield. A special coin topic will be presented and discussed. Refreshments available. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-789-2061.

Wednesday, Dec. 14

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

Saturday, Dec. 17

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT at Second Baptist Church of Suffield, 100 N. Main St. at 3 p.m. Free will offering to benefit the Fuel Bank administered by the Suffield Emergency Aid Association.

BAKE SALE at Saint Peter and Saint Paul Russian Orthodox Church, 118 Carew St., Springfield, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17. Items for sale will include Christmas cookies, baked items, perogies and stuffed cabbage. Orders will be taken until Dec. 7. To place an order, call 413-786-7693.

Sunday, Dec. 18

LIVE NATIVITY at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, 224 Sheep Pasture Road, Southwick during and shortly after the 10 a.m. Mass. Hot cocoa and cookies will be served.

ONGOING

BEGINNER TAI CHI classes at the Southwick Senior Center on Wednesdays from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Easy stretching and slow, gentle movements that improve balance and strength and enhance the immune system. For more information, call 413-569-5498.

ADULT DROP-IN SIT & KNIT meets at the Agawam Public Library at 750 Cooper St. Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. Bring your sticks and join other knitters for creative time. No registration is required.

GRANDPARENT'S PLAYGROUP Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. This free infant and toddler playgroup features music and movement, fostering children's interactions and sharing skills. Open to all grandparents and their grandchildren. Follows school schedule.

MOM 2 MOM takes place the second Tuesday of every month October through June, 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St. A round-table discussion hosted by a local "veteran" mom, this is a great way to have further conversation on recent café themes and parent education events, celebrate parenting and receive encouragement for the trials.

THE WESTFIELD WOMAN'S CLUB's clubhouse is available for rentals for wedding receptions, bridal showers, baby showers, graduation celebrations, and birthday and anniversary parties by the hour or the day. For more information, Lilian at 413-568-2916.

THE AGAWAM ST. PATRICK COMMITTEE meets the third Wednesday of each month, September through June, at 6:30 p.m. in the lower level classroom at St. John the Evangelist Church, 833 Main St., Agawam. For information on how to join, call Vera Conway at 413-786-3247 or email Rosemary Sandlin at rosemarysandlin@gmail.com

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers "Crochet Club" every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

A BREAST CANCER AND MASTECTOMY SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

AN ALL CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Center, 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

A BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP meets the second Wednesday of each month at Heritage Woods Assisted Facility, 462 Main St., Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

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NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu

Monday, Dec. 5: Macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, cornbread, bananas.

Tuesday, Dec. 6: Chicken stir fry, stir fry vegetables, brown rice, birthday cake.

Wednesday, Dec. 7: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, mixed fruit.

Thursday, Dec. 8: Chicken cacciatore, peppers and onions, pasta and sauce, pears.

Friday, Dec. 9: Baked fish bites, scalloped potatoes, green beans, pudding.

Calendar of Events

Monday, Dec. 5: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m.-noon, free hearing screening with Ear Masters; 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 10 a.m. to noon, Fallon Ins. agent available; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., Writing Club; 1 p.m., Bingo; 2 p.m., monthly dance with Richie Mitnick; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Tuesday, Dec. 6: S.H.I.N.E. representative (by appt.); 9 a.m., exercise, open knitting / sewing class; 10

a.m., chair exercise; noon, ladies only billiards; 12:30 p.m., mah jongg, movie ("Miracle on 34th Street"); 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., chorus; 4:30 p.m., yoga; 6 p.m., beginner line dance.

Wednesday, Dec. 7: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 8:30 a.m., Friends breakfast meeting; 9:30 a.m., Center for Vein Restoration free seminar (Garden Room); 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., ballroom lessons, scrabble; 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers Chapter 2 Christmas party (no meeting); 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Thursday, Dec. 8: 9 a.m., exercise; 9:30 a.m., quilting; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., free blood pressure check with Nurse Sherry, pitch, open art; 2 p.m., Melody Band practice; 6:30 p.m., pitch.

Friday, Dec. 9: 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., Let's Paint; 9:30 a.m., shopping and lunch trip with Kristina (sign up in advance); 10 a.m., tai chi; noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage.

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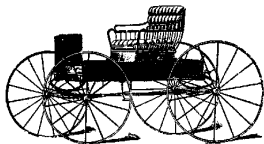
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EXCAVATION, SEPTIC, SITE work of all types. Retaining walls, patios. Land clearing. Commercial/ Residential. Licensed/ insured. North Light Construction, Inc. (508)570-8088, email northlight.scott@gmail.com

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SELL YOUR STRUCTURED settlement or annuity payments for cash now. You don't have to wait for your future payments any longer! Call (800)938-8092.

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20+ YEARS EXPERIENCE!

Complete carpentry, drywall and painting services.

For all your home improvement needs.

Kitchens, baths, finished basements and more!

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DELREO HOME IMPROVEMENT for all your exterior home improvement needs. **ROOFING, SIDING, WINDOWS, DOORS, DECKS & GUTTERS.** Extensive references available. Fully Licensed & Insured in MA. & CT. Call **GARY DELCAMP @ 413-569-3733**

Home Improvement

ACO

MASONRY, HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

All types of masonry work. Chimney repair, tile work, stucco, stone, brick, block, concrete, flat work, pavers, retaining walls. Heating & Air Conditioning Service & Installation Furnaces, Sheet Metal Power Washing Licensed & Insured Commercial & Residential Free Estimates Competitive Rates Call Adam Ouimette 413-374-7779

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COMPLETE HOME REMODELING, Design Build Additions, Kitchens, Baths, Decks, Siding, Doors, Windows, Painting, SnowPlowing. Licensed & Insured, Call Dave With All Your Remodeling Needs. 413-433-0013

LADIES RENOVATION LLC designing and installing new decks, kitchens, bathrooms, and stone veneer work. Please call (413)387-8609.

WATER DAMAGE

-CALL JAY (413)436-5782- FOR REPAIRS

Complete Drywall Service. Finishing, Painting, Ceilings (Smooth or Textured). 40 years experience. Fully insured

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MENARD GARAGE DOORS Authorized Raynor dealer specializing in sales, installation service and repairs of residential and light commercial overhead garage doors and openers. Fully insured. Free estimates. Call (413)289-6550 or www.menardgaragedoors.com

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A & B CDL CLASSES + BUS Chicopee, Ma (413)592-1500 UNITED TRACTOR TRAILER SCHOOL Unitedcdl.com

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****ALL SEASON**** Specializing shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob (413)537-5789 (413)538-7954.

*RICK BERGERON

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Shrub Trimming
Fall Clean-ups
Mowing & Landscaping
Loader and Backhoe
Over 30 yrs. in business
All Calls Returned
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DAVE'S LAWN AND GARDEN New lawn installation, Fall Clean-ups, aeration, full service property maintenance, shrub trimming, brush chipping, skid steer service. We do it all. Call today to get 15% off your next project. We also offer Senior Citizen and bush trimming discounts. Certified and insured. Call Dave at (413)478-4212 for your free estimate.

*****A+ DEVENO LANDSCAPING*** FALL CLEAN-UP,** Shrub trimming, weekly maintenance, bobcat service, new lawns, new landscaping, brick pavers, walks and patios. Free estimates. Residential/ Commercial (413)746-9065.

Masonry

ABC MASONRY & Basement Waterproofing All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call (413)569-1611, (413)374-5377

Painting

FORBES & SONS PAINTING & STAINING, LLC Interior, residential/ commercial/ new constructions. Wallpaper removal, drywall, plaster repair. Owner operated since 1985. Affordable rates. Free estimates. Insured. (413)887-1987 www.forbesandsonspainting.com

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Residential interior painting/ staining, wallpaper removal. Sheetrock and plaster repairs, quality products and workmanship. Insured. Free estimates. BBB Member (413)896-8264. www.kenspainting.tech

QUABBIN PAINTING INTERIOR/ EXTERIOR PAINTING, handyman, house and deck powerwashing, deck staining, gutters cleaned. Prompt professional service. Fully insured. Call 413-323-6425 gershmentebah2@yahoo.com

SHAWN'S PAINTING CO. Interior/Exterior Commercial/ Residential Priming,painting,staining Power Washing Wallpaper Removal Free Estimates 413-668-8149

Plumbing

GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING & Heating. Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg (413)592-1505.

LINC'S PLUMBING LIC #J27222 Scheduling Fall Tune Ups For Heating Systems Now Call LINC'S For Your Connection (413)668-5299

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FREE ROOF INSPECTIONS. ALL TYPES OF ROOFING, shingle, flat and slate. Call Local Builders (413)626-5296. Complete roofing systems and repairs. Fully licensed and insured. MA CS #102453, CT Reg. 0615780. Lifetime warranty. Senior Discount. 24 hour service.

SKY-TECH ROOFING, INC. 25 years experience. Commercial, residential. Insured. Shingles, single-ply systems. Tar/ gravel, slate repairs. 24 hour Emergency Repairs. (413)536-3279, (413)348-9568, (413)204-4841.

Snow Removal

24 HOUR SNOWPLOWING service, Monson, Palmer, Wilbraham, Hampden. Call now limited space available. (413)519-5439.

SNOW PLOWING, COMPETITIVE rates. Belchertown, Palmer, Amherst, Ludlow, Bondsville, Thorndike, Wilbraham, and all other surrounding areas.. Commercial/ Residential (413)433-0013

SNOW REMOVAL-

COMMERCIAL/ Residential Fast, Reliable, Fully Insured. Ware, Palmer, Belchertown, Wilbrham, Ludlow, and Chicopee. Call or text (413)-297-1403 Free Estimates www.zmpainting.com

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ATEKS TREE- HONEST, quality tree service. From pruning to house lot clearing. Fully insured. Free estimates. Firewood sales. (413)687-3220.

Tree Work

DL & G TREE SERVICE- Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage, lot clearing and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212.

WILLOW TREE SERVICE 30+ yrs experience. Free estimates. Fully insured. Removals, pruning, storm damage. Serving Westfield and surrounding areas. (413)569-3383 (413)214-2779 Veterans and Senior Citizen's discount.

Pets

RETIRED RACING GREYHOUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION spayed/neutered, wormed, shots, heartworm tested, teeth cleaned

Make a Fast Friend!

Greyhound Options Inc.
Call Mary at 413-566-3129
or Claire at 413-967-9088
or go to
www.greyhoundoptions.org

Horses

BELCHERTOWN BLACK OAK FARM. Learn to ride. Fun, relaxed atmosphere. Openings available ages 7 & up. No experience necessary. Specializing in beginners. MA Licensed instructor. (413)530-8100.

HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS offered year round at our state of the art facility. Beginner to advanced. Ages 4 years to adult. Boarding, sales and leasing also available. Convenient location at Orion Farm in South Hadley. (413)532-9753 www.orionfarm.net

LEARN TO RIDE, JUMP, SHOW! Tiny Trotters Program. IEA Teams Licensed instructors. Excellent school horses- ponies. Boarding, Training, Leases. Gift Certificates available (860)668-1656, (860)874-8077 www.endofhunt.com

Help Wanted

***CNA's, HHA'S, PCA's,* WE'VE MOVED WE ARE GROWING Positions available at Professional Medical Services, Inc. Highest competitive rates & mileage paid. EOE. Call Denise. (413)289-9018**

DRIVERS: \$2,500 SIGN-ON Bonus! Home Every Weekend! Great Pay & Benefits! CDL-A, 1yr Exp. Req. Estenson Logistics Apply: www.goelc.com 1-855-416-8511

EXPERIENCED CHEF ITALIAN FOOD, WAITSTAFF, BARTENDERS-

Experience preferred but will train too. Must be reliable, hardworking & have reliable transportation. Apply in person. Two locations: 2133 Boston Rd., Wilbraham or 395 River Rd, Agawam. (413) 244-0417

FOSTER CARE:

You can help change someone's life.

Provide a safe home for children and teens who have been abused or neglected. Now offering a \$1,000 Sign-On Bonus
Call Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care 413-734-2493.

HAIRSTYLIST WITH LICENSE AND RECEPTIONIST WANTED for busy salon. Pay commission. (413)786-6988.

SECRETARY NEEDED to take Ware Club Monthly Meeting Minutes. 1st Wednesday of the month at 7PM. CALL BILL 413-374-0978

Help Wanted

ON-CALL DISPATCHER TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

Looking for on-call 911 dispatchers to fill 8 hour shifts (1st, 2nd and 3rd) on an as needed basis at the Police Station. Dispatches police, fire, ambulance, & public works emergency responders; communicates via radio, telephone & alternate methods, operates LEAP/NCIC computer, keeps logs, monitors alarms; compensated at \$19.23/HR, no benefits, professional work environment; Must be certified in E-911 & LEAPS, PowerPhone-EMD by end of 90 day probationary period; 911 dispatch exp. highly desirable, courtesy & tact in dealing with others, ability to multitask & speak clearly essential. Please complete employment application available for print at www.wilbraham-ma.gov or in the Selectmen's Office, Town of Wilbraham, 240 Springfield St, Wilbraham, MA 01095 and submit no later than Friday, December 9, 2016. EEO

OPEN YOUR HEART & Home! Care for a Child in Need. Earn Money from Home.

PART TIME RIDING instructor to work with beginners. Hunter seat equitation. (860)874-8077

PART TIME FARM help and horse groom. Must be reliable, energetic with good attitude (860)874-8077

SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITYCOLLEGE Mason Part-time position

This position will lay brick, stone and cement blocks; plaster walls and ceilings; prepare surfaces for plaster or cement work; repair masonry on bridges, walls and fence posts; and perform related work as required. The basic purpose of this work is to construct, alter, repair and/or maintain surfaces and structures built of concrete, brick and stone. Masonry experience required. \$19.50/hr Tuesdays and Wednesdays - Day shift All applicants must apply online at www.stcc.edu

Health Care

GOT KNEE PAIN? Back Pain? Shoulder Pain? Get a pain-relieving brace at little or no cost to you. Medicare Patients, call Health Hotline now! (800)279-6038.

Real Estate



TOOMEY-LOVETT
109 West St.
Ware, MA 01082

www.Century21ToomeyLovett.com

Ware:
413-967-6326
800-486-2121
West Brookfield:
508-867-7064

Ware- Well maintained 12 room property, 4 bdrms, 1 full bath + two 1/2 baths. Once used as medical office \$159,900.

Dorinda O'Keefe-Shea 978-434-1990
Jill Stolgitis 413-477-8780
Mary Hicks 508-612-4794
Alan Varnum 508-867-2727
Bruce Martin 508-523-0114
Joe Chenevert 508-331-9031

Michael McQuestion 508-362-0533
Kathleen Howell 413-237-9944

Real Estate Wanted

A BEST CASH offer for any type of property, circumstance, condition or location. Ugly houses are OK. Fast closing. (413)244-2807

Mobile Homes

INDIAN ORCHARD 2 bedrooms, 12'x65', air, pellet stove, appliances, generator, security camera, large fenced yard, shed, pellets \$55,000. 413-593-9961 DASAP.MHVILLAGE.COM

For Rent



ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

BONDSDVILLE, 3087 MAIN ST., 2 BEDROOM APT. Updated repairs done. \$650/ mo, first & last. (413)324-6464

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

LULOW DUPLEX 2 bedroom, 1.5 baths, hardwood floors, gas heat/ hot water, garage. \$800/ mo First, last & security (413)575-9316.

MONSON HOUSE FOR rent: Wooded area cape, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully appliance, \$1500 month. Call 413.289.1285

WARE NICEST 2 bedroom apartment around. Spacious, clean, 1st floor, W/D hookups, dishwasher, off-street parking, nice area on Palmer Road. Owner occupied. NO SMOKING, NO PETS. Background & credit checks, references. \$925 plus utilities. 1st, last, security. CALL 413-277-9900

Vacation Rentals

WARM WEATHER IS year round in Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. \$3500. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.

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\$\$\$ AUTOS WANTED TOP Dollar paid for your unwanted cars, trucks, vans, big and small, running or not. Call 413-534-5400.



Notices

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD16P2075EA
Estate of:
Raymond Joseph Cecchet
Date of Death: 10/16/1994
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **James McQuade** of Feeding Hills, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that: **James McQuade** of Feeding Hills, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **12/15/2016**.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration

directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 17, 2016
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
12/1/16
LEGAL AD AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, December 8, 2016 at 6:00 PM** at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Korchevskiy for two parcels of property located on Twin Oaks Road (G9-2-21) and (G9-2-22).
By Order of
Henry A. Kozloski
Chairman

Agawam Conservation Commission
12/1/16
**LEGAL NOTICE
PUBLIC HEARING
AGAWAM
CITY COUNCIL**
The Agawam City Council will conduct a public hearing on **Monday, December 19, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.**, at the Roberta G. Doering School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA to consider the Petition as certified by the City Clerk on Oc-

tober 24, 2016 and as submitted to the City Clerk by the William Clark on October 4, 2016 and October 19, 2016.
The Petition is available for public inspection at the City Clerk's Office, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.
BY ORDER OF:
James P. Cichetti
President of the City Council
11/24, 12/1/16

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.
Let them know you saw their ad in the
Agawam Advertiser

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands.
Thank you.

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3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

visit **www.publicnotices.turley.com**

Church Directory

AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
745 Main St., Agawam
786-7111
Pastor: Rev. Greg E. Dawson
office@AgawamCong.com
www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10 a.m.
Communion on the first Sunday of the month
Church school is in session and fellowship coffee hour follows the service.
"A place to call home ~ A people to call family"

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
459 Mill St., Feeding Hills
413-786-4174
Pastor: Ken Blanchard
www.agawamworship.org

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion served 1st Sundays
Prepare meal for Samaritan Inn Homeless Shelter 2nd Saturdays 2-5 p.m.
Offsite Worship:
Heritage East, 1st Mondays, 11 a.m.
Heritage North, 1st Tuesdays, 11 a.m.
Heritage Woods, 1st Wednesdays, 11 a.m.
Country Estates, 2nd and 5th Thursdays, 11 a.m.

BETHANY ASSEMBLY OF GOD
580 Main St., Agawam
(413) 789-2930
www.bethany-ag.org
Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard E. Adams
WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday 9am & 10:45am
Christian Education offered during both

services.
Nightlife Contemporary Service: Sunday 6 p.m.
Wednesday Family Night: 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF REDEMPTION
50 Maple St., Agawam
(413) 304-2313
churchor.org

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday Services, 10 a.m.
Sunday school for children and nursery for younger children
Community Night: The first Sunday of each month at 5 p.m. Free dinner served.

FAITH BIBLE CHURCH
370 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam
(413) 786-1681
jesussaves.7@comcast.net
Church Website: www.faithbible-church.org
Pastor: Rick Donofrio

SERVICES
Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting and Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC
"An Open and Affirming Congregation."
21 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills
P.O. Box 264
(413) 786-5061
fhccucc@comcast.net
Pastor: The Rev. Robert C. Donaldson

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
Church School 10:15 a.m.

Worship Service 10 a.m.
Infant and child care provided.
Handicap accessible.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF AGAWAM
760 Main St., Agawam
churchedie@comcast.net
www.firstbaptistagawam.org
Pastor: Rev. George Thomson

SUNDAY SERVICES
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School (grades K - 5) following Children's Message until 10:45
Youth Group meets at 11 a.m.
Coffee & Conversation following worship service

HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
152 South Westfield St.
Feeding Hills
789-2026

SUNDAY SERVICES
Men's & Women's Bible Study Groups and Children's Sunday School Worship Service at 10 a.m. Children's Church for age 3 to high school takes place after the service. Nursery available for younger children. A time for fellowship after the service.

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
522 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
413-821-0937
Senior Elders Bob and Barbara Olmstead
Email: office@lighthousema.com
Web: www.lighthousema.com

WORSHIP SERVICE
Saturday evening Celebration at 6 to 8 PM
Saturday evening Prayer from 5 – 5:45

PM
1-hour classes for children ages 3 to 12 during service
Nursery available for younger children
SMALL GROUP MEETINGS in homes during the week
(call or see website for more information)

MARANATHA BAPTIST CHURCH
522 Springfield St., Feeding Hills
Feeding Hills, MA
478-9484
David L. Short, Pastor

Sunday Family Bible Study Hour, 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Service, 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Service, 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, 7 p.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH
1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills
(413) 786-8200
www.SacredHeartFeedingHills.org
Fr. Steven Amo

WEEKLY SERVICES
Lord's Day Masses: Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
Confessions: Saturdays, 3:15 p.m.
Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.
Special Devotions: Perpetual Novena to the Sacred Heart following the Friday 9 a.m. Mass

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Rector: The Rev. Dr. Harvey Hill
699 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
(413) 786-6133
saintdavidsgawam.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
Sunday 8 a.m. Rite I and Holy Eucharist
10 a.m. Rite II and Holy Eucharist
Sunday school and Nursery during 10 a.m. service
Coffee hour following the 10 a.m. service
Handicap Accessible

OFFSITE WORSHIP
Church without Walls, 2nd Sunday of the month at 12 p.m. at Parish Pantry, West Springfield
Holy Eucharist and distribution of bag lunches

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
Fr. Brian McGrath, Pastor
823 Main St., Agawam
786-8105
office@stjohnagawam.org
www.stjohnagawam.org

SCHEDULE OF MASSES
Saturdays: 4 p.m. (English), 6 p.m. (Extraordinary Latin Rite)
Sundays: 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Weekdays: Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m.
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
CONFESSION: Saturdays: 3 to 3:45 p.m., or by appointment.



Wedding & Event Planner



BANQUET FACILITIES

Chandlers at Yankee Candle – Voted the most romantic restaurant and best wine list in the valley for 10 years. Voted official best family restaurant of Massachusetts. South Deerfield, MA. 413-665-1277 or log onto chandlersyankeecandle.com.

Look Park Garden House – Gazebo, Pine Theater and Sanctuary for wedding receptions and ceremonies, meetings, banquets and events for up to 170 people. 300 North Main Street, Rt. 9, Florence, MA. 413-584-2220. www.lookpark.org.

Magic Wings Butterfly & Conservatory Gardens – You and your guests will be surrounded by 4,000 beautiful butterflies in a tropical setting anytime of the year! Accommodations for up to 100 for your ceremony and reception. All inclusive wedding packages available. We also host pre-wedding and rehearsal dinner parties. 281 Greenfield Rd., Scenic Routes 5 & 10, South Deerfield, MA. 413-665-2805. www.magicwings.com.

Publick House Historic Inn & Country Lodge – We have been creating picturesque New England weddings for over 230 years. Visit us online at www.publickhouse.com or call 508-347-3313.

Sheraton Springfield – One Monarch Place. Your Weekend Wedding Destination; rehearsal dinner, wedding and post nuptial brunch all in the comfort of one location. Newly renovated, atrium style hotel with ballroom seating for up to 500 guests. Complimentary suite for the Bride & Groom, Rolls Royce, Centerpieces and Parking included in all packages. Contact Kristen Muszynski, your personal wedding consultant at 413-263-2117 or kmuszynski@sheratonspringfield.com to set up your tour today!

Storowton Tavern – Storowton Tavern & Carriage House is a landmark area facility located on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition. The operators of the facility, the Calvanese family, have over 45 years of hospitality experience. They offer beautifully landscaped grounds, terraced patios and an upscale banquet facility that can serve 400 guests. For more information please visit www.storowtontavern.com. We are located at 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, MA 01089. 413.732.4188. info@storowton.com.

Union Station – Northampton's Union Station was designed by American architect H. H. Richardson in 1886. This historic train depot has been extensively renovated to contain one of the most elegant and unique banquet facilities in all of New England. The Grand Ballroom at Union Station. www.unionstationbanquets.com.

The Wherehouse? – Located downtown in historic Holyoke. The most unusual and interesting banquet function facility you've ever seen! Call today for your appointment, 413-534-3039. Visit us online at www.the-wherehouse.com.

BEAUTY & HEALTH

Brooks & Butterfield THE • DAY • SPA – Relaxed. Beautiful. Confident. Voted the Best Day Spa 9 years in a row. 140 Main Street, Northampton. 413-586-0366. www.brooksandbutterfield.com.

CAKES

Atkins Farms Country Market – For over 20 years, our cakes have been made from scratch, and we use only the highest quality ingredients. Decorated with beautifully hand crafted frosting flowers and topped with probably the best butter cream icing you'll taste anywhere. Our cake has had rave reviews from our customers from all around the Pioneer Valley where we are also well renowned for our quality baked goods. 253-9528. www.atkinsfarms.com.

Moore Cakes – Beautifully designed and sinfully delicious cakes since 1981. Contact Karen Moore at karenmoorecakes@yahoo.com, 413-436-7350. 47 Hillside Ave., Warren, MA. www.mooreyumycakes.com.

CATERERS

UMass Catering – Premier caterer serving the Pioneer Valley with beautiful views in the heart of the UMass Amherst Campus. 413-577-1234. Visit us online at www.umass.edu/catering.

FLORISTS

Atkins Farms Country Market – Atkins Flower Shop is managed by three full-time experienced floral designers to assist you in planning the wedding of your dreams. You can be assured of receiving the excellent service and quality products from the floral department that you have come to expect from Atkins. Their work is beautiful and expertly done and offered to you at prices that are surprisingly reasonable. 253-9528. www.atkinsfarms.com.

Otto Florist & Gifts – Traditional or contemporary, elegant or rustic our experienced designers work within your budget to create the wedding of your dreams! Call 413-967-5381 for an appointment. 7 North St., Ware.

Sixteen Acres Garden Center – The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center has been servicing Springfield for over 50 years. Our professional staff members aim to provide a service that is unique and tailored to suit individual needs. We provide a complete, high quality range of floral products at competitive prices. The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center offers flowers that are fresh daily and we take great pride in our work. We have arrangements for all different occasions and all budgets. For professional and experienced service please contact us at 413-783-5883. Located at 1359 Wilbraham Rd., Springfield, MA. Visit us on the web at www.16acresgardencenter.com.

PHOTOGRAPHY

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RENTALS

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'Talk of the Town' relaunched on cable access

"Talk of the Town," a local cable access television program about people, places and things making positive differences, has been relaunched on Channel 15 in West Springfield and Agawam, according to Roberta Page, who is host, director and writer of the program.

The first guest of the relaunch is West Springfield Mayor William Reichelt, Page said.

"There is no talk of politics, rather to find out about the human side of being in a position such as mayor and what events in his life were instrumental in getting him to where he is presently," she said.

Agawam's Channel 15 repeats the program numerous times during the week and weekends.

"The show is great and is a welcome addition to our lineup," said Jeffrey Hul-

bert, IT director for Agawam.

Each half-hour show features an interview with an individual who has made a positive difference in communities and in people's lives locally, regionally, nationally or internationally, Page said. Future episodes will also feature "On Safari," filmed segments on location at various significant historical sites. Hints about the site will be given and viewers will be invited to submit a guess on what it is, with the winner receiving a gift certificate or prize.

Any business interested in sponsoring a program or folks with ideas for, or comments about, programs or guests can write wsTownTalk@gmail.com or Talk of the Town, P.O. Box 423, West Springfield, MA 01090, or call 413-732-5472 or 413-530-8000.



Roberta Page, host and writer of "Talk of the Town," interviews the first re-launch guest, Mayor William C. Reichelt of West Springfield. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Grace Lutheran to hold holiday fair

WEST SPRINGFIELD — Grace Lutheran Church will hold its 38th annual Holiday Fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday Dec. 3, in the church hall. The fair will feature local crafters, traditional church shops, a bake sale and holiday raffle. There will be a luncheon served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Proceeds from this event will go to the Women in Christ group to fund its missions.

The church is at 1552 Westfield St., West Springfield.



FREE Pictures with Santa

Santa Claus is coming to town!

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**For More info call 789-8332 or email:
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